

IDEA Assurances – Get them in for FY 2011!!

With only three weeks left to July 1, the Special Education team has only received 38% of the signed assurances from school districts. Are you one of these districts? Get those signed assurances in! The assurance forms can be downloaded from <http://dpi.wi.gov/sped/lpp-assurances.html>.

Signed assurances can be postal mailed, faxed, or a pdf copy can be e-mailed to Linda Peterson at linda.peterson@dpi.wi.gov.

In addition, IDEA budgets need to be submitted by July 1, 2010. Remember, it is not a requirement to budget your entire allocation by July 1, but a budget does have to be submitted.

The assurances and budget constitute our IDEA entitlement grant application process. Sub-recipients are not allowed to incur costs against the new fiscal year funding until DPI has received the grant application in substantially approvable form.

Reminder: Hit up your district's assigned consultant for fiscal technical assistance

Some of you may be frustrated with the inability to get e-mails and voicemail messages answered in a timely fashion. Here is some advice on getting questions answered quickly:

- First line of communication should be your district's assigned consultant. There are two methods to determine who that is if you do not know. First is the link to the LPP Consultants page at <http://www.dpi.wi.gov/sped/sepcontact.html> which includes names, e-mails and budgets. The other location is within your IDEA web-based budgets. On the budget main menu, there is a link to the IDEA Budget Contacts, which will include your DPI consultant's contact information.
- Joe Galle is our ARRA consultant and is available to answer questions about ARRA surveys, due dates, construction and remodeling requests as well as budget questions. His e-mail is joseph.galle@dpi.wi.gov and his phone number is 608-266-3928

IDEA funds to support Title I schoolwide activities technical assistance now available

Information on this optional set-aside amount is now available on our website. The technical assistance includes set-aside calculators for fiscal years 2010 and 2011, as well as a detailed technical assistance paper and a very short recorded webinar that demonstrates how to budget for the set-aside in the IDEA budget software.

You can review the materials at www.dpi.wi.gov/sped/lpp-budgets.html#title under "Title I Schoolwide Activities Set-Aside."

The software option to set-aside IDEA funds for Title I schoolwide activities is available in the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 budgets.

Update: For those who received information previously about the Title I schoolwide set-aside, please note that the eligible student count number used is the eligible student count taken the

fiscal year the funding is set-aside. Previous guidance had stated that the eligible student count used was the eligible student count taken in the prior fiscal year, which is incorrect.

Claim instructions updated to include indirect cost claiming

Several changes were made to the web-based claim software in April 2010. The claim submission instructions available on our website have been updated to reflect these changes as well as providing information on final claims and indirect cost claiming. Claim instructions can be downloaded from: <http://www.dpi.wi.gov/sped/pdf/idea-claim-process.pdf>

Open invitation to attend US Dept of Education's webinar on "Strategic Use of Title I & IDEA Funds: How to Maximize Funds."

School district personnel have been invited to participate in this upcoming webinar being sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education on Tuesday, June 15 from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

As you plan for the 2010-2011 school year, the Department appreciates that LEAs are preparing to use unspent ARRA funds to best meet the needs students whom IDEA will serve in 2010-2011.

Providing technical assistance, budgeting recommendations, and examples of strategic uses of ARRA and non-ARRA IDEA funds, based on spending timelines, is a priority in the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services. Maximizing all of the federal education funding to meet the needs of students with disabilities in our schools across the nation is also critical.

Registration is required to participate in this webinar. Please register on ed.gov at: <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/leg/recovery/rms-web-conferences.html>. Scroll-down down to the "RMS Webinar Schedule & Registration" table, and click on the title of the webinar to register. After you have registered, you will receive an automatic confirmation email notice from "Event Notification [do_not_reply@on24event.com]" containing the link to log-in for the webinar.

Listserv Sign-Up

Anyone can sign up to receive the IDEA fiscal listserv. Register at <http://www.dpi.wi.gov/sped/lpp-budgets.html#listserv>.

Archived listserv messages are located at <http://www.dpi.wi.gov/sped/lpp-fiscal-archive.html>.